

December 20, 2016

United States Environmental Protection Agency

Via [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov)

Re: EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant

Dear Selection Committee members:

It is with great enthusiasm that the Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado respectfully requests \$600,000 of EPA Brownfields Assessment funding through a Coalition Grant to assist in reuse and redevelopment efforts throughout rural Southwest Colorado. Brownfields are part of our region's legacy and have historically centered around our water supply from commercial uses and mining history. In September of this year, the Bonita Mining District was named a NPL site resulting from the Gold King Mine Spill in 2015.

The region has seen some Brownfield successes and plenty of experience, but our communities lack the financial resources to address Brownfields that aren't providing an immediate health hazard.

The majority of the municipalities have a small population base and limited municipal budgets. They rely heavily on grant funding to accomplish projects, and few have the dedicated staff to write applications much less, the funds to secure the match needed for many grants. With the continued decline of the oil and gas industry, less and less money will be in the government coffers for infrastructure improvements. The result is that these properties will continue to sit without this needed funding.

Funding our request will allow us to support and strengthen our economy, by removing significant hurdles to the rehabilitation of older buildings and commercial sites, and by improving safety and quality of life in various residential and commercial areas throughout the region. Accurate data provided by the assessments and inventories will also allow local governments to plan for growth and development, and will inform citizens.

This project will: 1) move forward at least eight priority Brownfield projects that are stuck due to lack of funds; 2) assist and educate eight rural communities/county governments in the assessment and clean-up planning of identified projects so reuse and redevelopment can occur; and 3) inventory three communities that have not yet identified their priority Brownfield sites; and 4) provide economic opportunities to bring in new business and create jobs in rural communities.

As a regional economic development district, Region 9 knows that redevelopment creates and retains jobs, attracts new business, enhances the local tax base and increases property values. All of this stimulates the economy.

**Applicant information:** Region 9 Economic Development District of SW Colorado, 295 A. Girard St., Durango, CO 81303

**Applicant DUNS Number:** 9279219730000

**Contamination:** Hazardous Substances

**Assessment Type:** Coalition

**Grant Target:** Southwest Colorado region

**Location:** region of Archuleta, La Plata, Montezuma, Dolores and San Juan Counties; Towns/Cities of Rico, Pagosa Springs, Bayfield, Mancos, Ignacio, Durango, Cortez

**Contact:** Laura Lewis Marchino, Executive Director, Region 9 EDD, 295 A Girard St. Durango, CO 81303. (970) 247-9621, Fax (970) 247-9513, [laura@scan.org](mailto:laura@scan.org).

**Chief Executive/Highest Ranking Official:** Dan Fernandez, Chairman, Region 9 EDD, Board of Directors, 295 A Girard St. Durango, CO 81303. (970) 677-2315, (970) 560-1710, [danfern@fone.net](mailto:danfern@fone.net).

**Date submitted:** Dec. 22, 2016 to EPA via [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov)

**Project Period:** estimate 03/01/2017 through 2/28/2020

**Population:** 94,726 in region (2015 State Demographer) Pagosa Springs 1,804, Rico 253, Bayfield 2,573, Durango 18,228, Ignacio 730, Cortez 8,727, Mancos 1,407 and Montezuma 21,168.

Montezuma County (a Coalition partner) has experienced persistent poverty of greater than 20% of individuals in the 1990, 2000 and 2010 Census numbers.

Regional Priorities/Other Factors Checklist as Appendix 3 is attached.

We appreciate your consideration of this request. If you have any questions or need additional information or clarification, please feel free to contact me at 970-247-9621 or [laura@scan.org](mailto:laura@scan.org).

Sincerely,

Laura Lewis Marchino  
Executive Director

Enclosures: EPA Grant Proposal application and attachments

## **Southwest Colorado Coalition Assessment Grant Proposal Narrative (15 pages)**

### **1) Community Need:**

#### **a) Target Area and Brownfields**

##### **i) Community & Target Area Descriptions**

The Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado (Region 9) encompasses a five-county area adjacent to the Four Corners including Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata, Montezuma and San Juan Counties as well as the reservations of the Southern Ute and Ute Mountain Indian Tribes. The region is largely rural with an estimated 2014 population of 94,726 in all five counties. Of our Coalition participants, the smallest community of Rico has less than 300 residents, and the community of Ignacio is surrounded by the Southern Ute Indian reservation. The region consists of high desert, mountains and alpine eco zones. Water is of key importance, and water storage and transfer projects abound. The City of Cortez, for example, was the product of a scheme in the late 1880s to transfer water from the Dolores River drainage to the arid Montezuma Valley. Large federal water projects, such as the Animas-La Plata, McPhee (Dolores River) Reservoir, Vallecito (Pine River) and Lemon (Florida River) Dams have affected agricultural and municipal development. Colorado's famous "Mineral Belt", a geologic shear zone where extensive mineralization occurs, runs northeast through the region. As a result, numerous mines have been developed in the mountains.

Brownfields are part of our legacy, most recently highlighted by the Gold King Mine Spill. On August 5, 2015, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was conducting an investigation of the Gold King Mine near Silverton, Colorado, to assess the on-going water releases from the mine, treat mine water, and evaluate the feasibility of further mine remediation. While investigators were excavating above the old adit, pressurized water began leaking above the mine tunnel, spilling about three million gallons of water stored behind the collapsed material into Cement Creek, which is a tributary of the Animas River. In September, 2016, the EPA listed the Bonita Mining District in San Juan County as an NPL site. The Gold King spill, with impacts across three states, furthered discussions about regional collaboration to proactively address each community's ability to improve their economic conditions through redevelopment and reuse. The extensive administrative commitment to this issue has led Silverton/San Juan County to opt out of this grant application in order to devote their full attention to the NPL site.

Regional communities have seen numerous Brownfield successes. Examples include: Mancos- turned a former power plant site into a new library; San Juan County/Silverton - cleaned up Anvil Mountain, a former smelter, and is building affordable housing; Cortez- rehabilitated a derelict downtown building with asbestos into the Sunflower Community Theater; and Durango- partnered with a nonprofit to transform their defunct historic power plant into the Power House Science Center, an energy and science museum, and hub for future riverfront development.

Funding this regional application will pair communities new to the process with communities with previous Brownfield experience. The Coalition members for this collaborative effort, includes one county and seven communities located in four counties. Targeted properties are government-owned and ready-to-go sites that will have wide ranging results and positive rural economy impacts. Region 9, as a member of the Coalition will be able to add value by bringing micro-entrepreneurial businesses into redeveloped sites as

demonstrated by Moose and More, located in downtown Cortez. This chocolate shop opened in 2015 next door to an asbestos clean-up site, with assistance from Region 9's loan program that focuses on start-up businesses.

This application includes numerous high priority sites identified with access secured. One is the Mason Building, which is located within a historic Durango residential neighborhood and is part of a National Register-listed historic district. This building, owned by the City of Durango, was used as an elementary school from the 1950s to the 1980s. It has since been used as an adult education center, a gymnastics venue and a summer child care site. Vandalism in recent years and maintenance costs have made its future use questionable. The City would like to assess costs for properly managing the asbestos prior to demolition and re-creation of the site as a park, green space or look at possible housing since it is located in a residential area.

Also in Durango, the Holly Park site is a former medical landfill located within a residential neighborhood, adjacent to homes, two churches and an elementary school. It had a Phase I evaluation several years ago, and more assessment is needed to determine costs and alternatives for the site. The Town of Rico would like to address their historic Town Hall (listed on the National Register of Historic Places) and their maintenance building. Ignacio is new to Brownfield efforts and would like to have an inventory done on their main street (Goddard Avenue), and conduct assessments on an old elementary school, a former slaughterhouse property, and their Town Hall which used to be a gas station and repair shop.

A county-wide inventory of Brownfields was conducted in Montezuma County in 2013, and this application will move the priority Brownfield sites forward. Bayfield and Mancos would like to have inventories conducted in their communities to identify sites to include in their redevelopment and reuse planning. Finally, the Town of Pagosa Springs would like an assessment conducted on their Town Shop site, which has redevelopment options currently being discussed. The Coalition anticipates other sites will also come up within the three year time-frame.

## ii) Demographic information & Indicators of Need

Southwest Colorado's traditional industries featured mining, timber and agriculture but today the primary industry is tourism. There is significant pride in, and importance of, the environment and its role in quality of life including outdoor recreation. Below, the charts provide the population, unemployment and poverty rates and utilize some different sources. Not visually presented, but important, is the population decline of 2.1% between 2010 and 2014 in Dolores County (from 2,060 to 1,993, Colorado Demographer). This is a troubling trend of rural areas losing population and not having the resources to create community amenities needed to attract residents and businesses.

	County					State	National
	Archuleta	Dolores	La Plata	Montezuma	San Juan	Colorado	
<sup>1</sup> Population	12,352	1,978	54,688	21,168	701	5,456,574	321,418,820
<sup>2</sup> Unemployment	4.0%	3.1%	3.5%	5.6%	4.1%	3.9%	5.0%
<sup>3</sup> Median Household Income	\$ 44,508	\$ 44,235	\$ 60,658	\$ 44,163	\$ 40,006	\$ 61,324	\$ 53,657
<sup>3</sup> Poverty Rate	14.7%	15.4%	10.7%	16.3%	15.5%	12.1%	15.6%
<sup>4</sup> Percent Minority	12.4%	5.5%	12.1%	16.9%	6.9%	16.0%	26.2%

<sup>1</sup> US Census Bureau 2015 Population Estimates <https://factfinder.census.gov>

<sup>2</sup> Bureau of Labor Statistics 2015 Annual Unemployment Rate <http://data.bls.gov>

<sup>3</sup> Small Area Income and Poverty estimates <https://www.census.gov/did/www/saipe>

<sup>4</sup> 2010 - 2014 American Community Survey 5 Year Estimates <https://factfinder.census.gov>



County	Archuleta	Dolores	La Plata			Montezuma	
Community	Pagosa Springs	Rico	Bayfield	Durango	Ignacio	Cortez	Mancos
<sup>1</sup> Population	1,804	253	2,573	18,228	730	8,727	1,407

<sup>1</sup> Colorado State Demography Office <https://demography.dola.colorado.gov>

## Poverty Status

The local population has a significant number of working poor with depressed income levels in a high cost of living area. Since almost all working-age families meet their income needs with

Per Capita Income Comparison		
	PCI 2013	% of USA
USA	\$ 44,765	100%
Colorado	\$ 46,897	105%
Archuleta	\$ 35,263	79%
Dolores	\$ 32,107	72%
La Plata	\$ 46,633	104%
Montezuma	\$ 36,524	82%
San Juan	\$ 34,922	78%

<http://www.bea.gov/regional/bearfacts>

employment, a crucial question is whether the jobs available provide sufficient wages. Region 9's livable wage study shows ([http://www.scan.org/uploads/Livable\\_Wages\\_2015.pdf](http://www.scan.org/uploads/Livable_Wages_2015.pdf)) that residents need to earn between \$22.09 an hour in Dove Creek and \$28.45 an hour in Durango to even sustain the basic needs of a 4 person household. Obviously if there is only one wage earner working minimum wage, sustaining a family is not possible without public assistance or undesirable choices such as no transportation

or health insurance. People in the area often commute long distances, across state and county lines, to take advantage of better employment opportunities, better shopping, or lower real estate prices. Census tract information for years 1990, 2000, 2010 and 2015 show that areas of Montezuma County (tracts 9410, 9411 and 9694) have experienced persistent poverty of greater than 20% of individuals. The American Community Survey (Census) for 2014 shows several census tracts meet the poverty percentage criteria. These include: Dolores CT1 (around Dove Creek) - 20.1%; La Plata CT 9711 (S. Durango) - 26.2%; Montezuma CT 9411 - 30.5%; and Montezuma CT 9694 - 28.8%. The chart on the left shows that per capita income, for many of our residents are below the State and nation.

### iii) Brownfields and Their Impacts

In Southwest Colorado, there is a lot of attention around mine tailings (per the August, 2015 Gold King Mine Spill and resulting NPL site in San Juan County) and threats to water quality. Gold King was only the "tip of the iceberg". There are thousands of patented claims throughout the San Juan Mountains and other mine-scarred lands that threaten the pristine beauty critical to our vital tourism industry (as seen by the Gold King impacts to fishing, rafting and agriculture activities). Mine scarred lands continue to threaten streams and groundwater with heavy metals. Former precious metal smelting facilities in towns such as Silverton, Rico and Durango, as well as processing of radioactive ores, also pose threats. In the 1980s, Durango addressed radioactive tailings in Durango from an UMTRA site. We also have a legacy of impacts from historic logging operations and former gas stations. The logging industry was active in the 19th and 20th centuries with sawmills in Dolores and Archuleta Counties, further denigrating local water quality.

Our region is not systematically addressing the presence of asbestos and other hazardous materials in our older buildings, which contribute to the site being abandoned, or at minimum, in need of repair or demolition. The presence of asbestos, or even the perception that asbestos might be present, is a significant deterrent to the desire to rehabilitate a historic building.

## **b) Welfare Environmental and Public Health Impacts**

### **i) Welfare Impacts**

Brownfield site issues limit redevelopment of existing facilities in our region's urbanized areas and reduce or eliminate recreational use and potential redevelopment in residential areas. Brownfield funds will help us redevelop existing properties throughout our rural region into new office, business and light manufacturing operations that will infuse the local tax base and provide job opportunities in the commercial areas along with improving the basic neighborhood setting for mixed residential/commercial uses. La Plata County's Economic Development Alliance conducted a feasibility study in April, 2016 regarding business and industrial parks and found a new park was not needed as the buildings are currently available ("The Demand for Office and Industrial Space in La Plata County", Gruen Gruen + Associates). It recommends relocations of businesses and adaptive reuse of existing buildings. What the study did not address is that many buildings are not "move in ready" for reuse and stated, "Redevelopment in or near downtown Durango and Bodo Industrial Park may qualify as blighted or unsafe/hazardous under Urban Renewal statutes." (p.87). We anticipate this funding will mitigate the impacts of unsafe/hazardous materials and improve our population's personal, neighborhood, or work environment thereby strengthening their immune systems and reducing vulnerability to disease.

### **ii) Cumulative Environmental Issues & iii) Cumulative Public Health Impacts**

Our mining history is long and varied; from coal to precious metals to radioactive ores used in nuclear weapons. This legacy remains to this day in the form of large tailing piles threatening surface waters with draining acid and metal-laden contamination from hard rock mining. We also have radioactive tailing materials (from the processing of vanadium and uranium) that has been used as road base and other fill material, hindering local redevelopment. Reuse and redevelopment efforts are hampered by our lack of knowledge about the materials used in construction of older buildings and located in the property on which the buildings sit. Phase I assessments may clear the cloud of doubt about redevelopment of some properties. Phase II assessments results will recommend strategies to protect our residents and visitors. There is much research on the impacts to human health caused by poor water and air quality, and our region is no different in seeking to mitigate all applicable concerns.

Pollution sources within the Four Corners include coal-fired power plants, motorized vehicles, oil and gas operations, wildfires and intentional burning, road dust, and other sources. There are 16 existing power plants in the vicinity of the Four Corners (within a 200 mile radius) utilizing regional coal sources and providing power for distant locations. In addition, another coal fired plant is proposed.

Ozone is normally considered a big city issue, but it is of growing concern in the Four Corners area. In this region, ozone is mainly caused by power plants and oil and gas development (Cooperative Institute for Research in the Atmosphere). Ground-level ozone can cause chest pain, coughing, throat irritation, and congestion and can worsen bronchitis, emphysema, and asthma. Many plant species, including crops, such as soybeans, and Ponderosa pines and Aspen trees are extremely sensitive to ozone exposure.

Fish consumption advisories due to mercury deposition from power plants are in effect for five lakes and reservoirs within Region 9 in Archuleta, La Plata, and Montezuma counties. Mercury is also associated with processing of ores. Mesa Verde National Park recorded some of

the highest mercury concentrations in the nation in 2010, and continues to monitor mercury, nitrogen, sulfur, ozone, fine particles, haze and dust.

The Pagosa Springs area was classified in 1987 as non-attainment for PM10. The area was re-designated as “maintenance”, rather than non-attainment, in 2001. The air shed will be monitored for PM10 until at least 2021.

Our communities support the protection and enhancement of a healthy natural environment. We want a healthy environment with clean air and water, and dark night skies. Wildlife corridors connect natural areas throughout the region, creating ecosystem linkages and improving wildlife vitality. Damage from invasive weeds has been reduced and our native species are thriving. As extractive industries develop and decline, disturbed lands are successfully reclaimed and utilized.

### **c) Financial Need**

#### **i) Economic Conditions**

Our region has seen some Brownfield successes, but due to typical western attitudes about independence and self-sufficiency, each community works on projects based on its individual means. Our communities have few financial resources to address Brownfields that aren't providing an immediate health hazard. The majority of the municipalities have a small population base and limited municipal budgets. They rely heavily on grant funding, and few have dedicated staff to write applications much less, to secure the match needed for many grants. There are pressures to keep taxes low as seen in a recent defeat of a proposed road and bridge property tax increase in La Plata County. The communities do not have the capacity to fund Brownfield assessments in addition to any resulting clean-up needed for reuse and redevelopment. The aging building infrastructure is ignored because the risk to health and safety is not as critical as other sites, primarily mining.

Post-recession, the region's economic conditions have stabilized but jobs are not back to pre-recession levels. Throughout the region, the highest paid jobs are in the mining sector (\$76,168 annually) which includes oil and gas production as well as hard rock mining; and the second highest-construction jobs-averaged about \$50,006 annually in 2014. Releases of the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) data for 2015 indicate that there are substantial job losses in oil and gas employment and the construction industries that support them. These losses are a result of declining oil and gas prices. Hardest hit so far is La Plata County where taxes from natural gas are predicted to drop from 41 to 30 percent of the total budget in 2017. Montezuma County has also encountered setbacks from job losses in these industries and subsequent losses in tax revenues. From 2014 to 2015 there was a net loss of 321 jobs in these and associated industries. Each job lost in the Oil and Gas Extraction sector means an additional 1.14 associated positions are lost in the companies that provide goods and services to the industry. In these selected industries, in one year (2014- 2015), there was an estimated net loss of (-\$26,782,800) in labor income in Montezuma County alone.

Also, the Gold King Mine Spill occurred in Silverton, which is one of Colorado's most noted 'victims' of the 'boom and bust' mining economy. The last mine closed in 1998 causing the town to lose half of their population. The hiring of a San Juan County Recovery Coordinator (see leveraging section) will be critical to determining and mitigating the impacts of the Gold King Mine Spill's economic disruption.

## **ii) Economic Effects of Brownfields**

As a regional economic development district, Region 9 knows that redevelopment creates and retains jobs, attracts new business, enhances the local tax base and increases property values. All of this stimulates the economy. However most of our historic buildings don't have the market support to justify the redevelopment costs, or the market does not provide revenue to repay for redevelopment. With the continued decline of oil and gas, less and less money will be in the government coffers for infrastructure improvements. The result is that these properties will continue to sit, stuck, without this needed funding.

On a larger scale, a healthy environment can be a selling point for a region's economic development efforts. A healthy environment can also be a draw to tourists and outdoor enthusiasts of all kinds, from fishermen and hunters to hikers or bird watchers. Businesses - and their employees - like to live in a safe and healthy environment. This is increasingly true in the information technology era when businesses and jobs can relocate almost anywhere they wish. Increasingly, areas that offer the best environmental resources are often the most attractive to business interests that have the ability to move.

Tourism is the region's largest employment sector with 23% of the region's jobs (2015 Region 9 Report). The importance of tourism varies by county, providing an estimated 43% of all jobs in San Juan County to 7% of jobs in Dolores County. The tourism industry, while characterized overall by lower wages, is critical to the local economy and any threats to this industry from incidents such as future spills to surface water can have dire consequences. Using a series of multipliers developed through economic modeling we can also estimate how many supporting jobs are generated by direct jobs in tourism, and how much additional job income is added to the local economy by these supporting jobs.

Region 9		Multiplier	Indirect/Supporting	Total
Direct Jobs	8,536	1.4	3,414	11,950
Direct Income	\$ 220,950,000	1.6	\$ 132,570,000	\$ 353,520,000

Tourism is supporting an estimated 11,950 jobs and contributing \$350 million in job income. There are also other intangible benefits. For example, the industry is "clean", in that it does not use up natural resources nor create polluting by-products. It is also sustainable because the focus is on preserving the resources and attractions that people come to see.

## **2) Project Description and Feasibility of Success**

### **a) Project Description, Timing and Implementation**

#### **i) Project Description and Alignment with Revitalization Plans**

Region 9 updated their Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the five county region in 2016. A CEDS is a regional planning process designed to guide the economic growth of an area and aligns all participants with this funding application because Brownfields were specifically identified as priorities. The CEDS also identifies a plan for economic resilience defined as the ability of a region or communities to anticipate, withstand, and bounce back from any shocks to its businesses and overall economy. This includes:

- Natural disasters or hazards (i.e. flooding or wildfires).
- The closure of a large employer (i.e. the oil and gas industry).

- The decline of an important industry (i.e. tourism).

The CEDS also includes a Community Development Action Plan (CDAP) for each county which lists short-term projects (defined as two years or less) developed through review of current project priorities, interviews with key community stakeholders, and those working on, or planning, community projects. The CDAPs are used by our government jurisdictions as the official community plan required for eligibility for many federal and state funding sources and projects specific to this application are listed in the CDAP.

(<http://www.scan.org/index.php?strategy=yes>). In fact, selection criteria for the sites are identified below (in Section ii (2)) and also reinforce sustainable and equitable development objectives.

## **ii) Timing and Implementation**

### **(1) Contractor Procurement**

Region 9 will administer the project and manage the project schedule within the three year timeline. Contractor procurement will begin immediately upon receipt of funds. Region 9 plans to draft an RFP for a Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP) with the assistance of Technical Assistance to Brownfields Program (TAB) and to utilize the Coalition members and TAB to identify applicable companies and the best ways to advertise. This will be done within a month of the grant award. Region 9 plans to ask TAB and Coalition members for input on the applicants. Depending on the needs and timing of the various projects, more than one contractor might be used.

### **(2) Site inventory or identification process and prioritization**

Prior to this application, Region 9 received support from its Board of Directors regarding coordinating a regional Brownfields effort. In August, 2016, Region 9 held two community meetings attended by primarily local governments and bankers. The programs included speakers with Community Builders, the Colorado Brownfields Partnership, TAB and the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment. The program sought to educate and help area jurisdictions identify projects that fit EPA eligibility guidelines and identify applicable resources to address these sites. Those projects are identified in the application and will be the first priority for the funds in Year 1. There are additional projects that are less timely or reuse and redevelopment plans have not yet been identified. These will be included as there are remaining funds. There are also three communities interested in an inventory to identify their Brownfield sites (Year 2). Region 9 and the Coalition will develop and approve site selection criteria. The criteria will be based on the following factors:

#### **Planning and Community**

- Community input received at public meetings of the Coalition
- Alignment with the goals of existing community development, land use and comprehensive plans
- Location within previous developed areas to avoid sprawl and make use of existing infrastructure (i.e. utilities, transportation) and associate with existing or planned housing
- In compliance with community codes and ordinances

#### **Development Potential**

- Timeliness-can the assessment be completed within the grant timeframe
- Re-use plan in place or potential re-use identified
- Availability of funding for development
  - Private sources or government capital improvements plans

#### **Impact of the Site Cleanup**

- Proximity of the site to vulnerable populations, such as schools, residential neighborhoods and senior living facilities
- Ability to preserve a greenfield

#### **Benefits**

- Economic, such as added jobs, increased tax base
- Community, such as a location for a non-profit
- Environmental
  - Green Space
  - Reuse of materials or preserving buildings to reduce landfill waste

### **(3) Proposed governance structure to select sites to assess**

Members of the Coalition will be the site selection decision makers. Region 9 will provide staff oversight for day-to-day grant operations. The Coalition will advise and support Region 9 to ensure that the priorities and direction of the program are met. Coalition members will serve as contacts for the owners of the selected properties via regular contact with Region 9, along with formal quarterly Coalition meetings. The Coalition will advise Region 9 as it prepares a 36-month project budget and work plan for EPA approval and on the selection of a Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP) to perform the assessment and cleanup planning work, general program management reporting and possible inventories. Along with receiving community input, the Coalition will approve site ranking and priority criteria to select Brownfields sites for assessment funds.

### **(4) Obtaining and securing site access**

All projects listed have site access secured. It will be the responsibility of the applicable government jurisdiction to secure site access of additional sites that get identified during the grant timeline. All jurisdictions will be asked to assign a staff person to work with the Environmental Professional, TAB and Region 9 as needed.

### **b) Task Descriptions and Budget Table**

This application aligns with the desire to identify, assess and clean up Brownfield sites throughout the region. This project will: 1) move forward priority Brownfield projects that are stuck due to lack of funds; 2) assist rural communities in the assessment and clean-up planning of identified projects so reuse and redevelopment can occur; and 3) inventory the communities that have not identified their priority Brownfield sites; and 4) provide economic opportunities to bring in new business and create jobs in rural communities. In addition, all projects in this application are in alignment with the previously discussed CDAP lists from their county.

#### **i) Task Descriptions**

Task 1 - Cooperative agreement & grant reporting – Includes all grant and financial reporting, project supplies and Coalition work.

Task 2 - Secure consultant(s) to carry out environmental work and schedule with each project- Includes identifying scope of work, project timelines and work schedule(s).

Task 3 - Conduct the Phase I and Phase II assessments – Based on the initial properties submitted, we estimate there will be twelve Phase 1 assessments costing \$4K each; and eight Phase 2 assessments estimated at \$30K each.

Task 4 - Public input and outreach – This includes Coalition meetings, presentations, public meetings, education and publicity. We estimate travel and meeting materials for this task.

Task 5 - Conduct community assessments – Includes the estimated 3 community inventories at \$20K each.

## ii) Budget Table

	Task 1 -- Coop. Agreement & Grant Reporting			Task 2 --Secure Consultant & Work Plan			Task 3 -- Conduct Assessmen	Task 4 -- Public Input and Outreach			Task 5 - Comm. Inventories		Totals
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 2	Year 3	
Personnel	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$4,000	\$0	\$0	\$0							\$11,000
Fringe													
Benefits	\$700	\$700	\$800	\$0	\$0	\$0							\$2,200
Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$400	\$400	\$400		\$300	\$300	\$300			\$2,100
Equipment													\$0
Supplies	\$250	\$250	\$200	\$200	\$400	\$400		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000			\$4,700
Contractual	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$300,000	\$50,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$20,000	\$580,000
Other													\$0
Indirect Charges													\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,450</b>	<b>\$4,450</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>\$30,600</b>	<b>\$30,800</b>	<b>\$30,800</b>	<b>\$300,000</b>	<b>\$51,300</b>	<b>\$41,300</b>	<b>\$41,300</b>	<b>\$40,000</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>	<b>\$600,000</b>

## c) Ability to leverage

The projects identified in this application are Brownfield sites in which leveraging is committed and scheduled to occur after the project assessment. This includes assessment, clean-up and reuse. The projects seeking Phase I and Phase II assessments are already included in the CEDS and local plans and budgets to move forward. This and numerous other activities show the region's involvement and enthusiasm as well as provide significant leveraging to this application. The immediate response efforts for the Gold King Mine Spill included notifying downstream communities of the spill so they could turn off municipal and agricultural water from the Animas River. The *Animas River Forum* was formed with \$37,850 from the Southwest Basin Roundtable, which includes area water conservancy groups to facilitate information exchange and dialogue among watershed stakeholders. Activities included alert notification plan developed and implemented; dialogue regarding Superfund designation; seven community events w/updates @ river health and safety and monitoring results; supported information dissemination to downstream communities; completed regional survey and data inventory, and & data swap among 20 watershed stakeholders.

Region 9 successfully received funds of \$57,000 for a San Juan County Recovery Coordinator who begins work in January 2017. This position is funded for 18 months and

includes \$57,000 of match from the Town of Silverton, San Juan County, Silverton Schools, and Region 9. The amount of the grant was limited only because the communities could raise more than the \$57,000 for leverage and again demonstrates inability to do Brownfields work without EPA funding. The Recovery Coordinator will be responsible for working with businesses and assisting them to successfully remain open and navigate the community's transition from the Gold King Mine Spill disaster to a long term Superfund cleanup. San Juan County is primarily tourism based and the Coordinator will develop a resiliency plan for existing businesses, and identify opportunities for economic diversification. The Coordinator will also be a central point of contact in the communication and dissemination of accurate information to the community, as requested by both San Juan County and the Town of Silverton who provided match to the application.

Region 9 provides loans to area small businesses that cannot receive traditional financing. As part of this Coalition, Region 9 will be poised to assist small businesses to utilize the created spaces. Region 9 has \$800K in loan funds currently available and currently has 117 active loans totaling \$4.6 million in receivables. For example, Region 9 provided significant funds to help the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad overcome economic disruption after a 2002 wildfire closed down business for a month at the height of tourism season. The Region 9 funds prevented employee layoffs and kept this "economic engine" in business. Region 9 is aware of the statewide Brownfields revolving loan fund and will inform Coalition members of the availability of this resource for cleanup after assessments have been completed.

County level economic development groups such as the Pagosa CDC and Alliance that have submitted letters of support, work closely with businesses to find available space. They, as well as Region 9, will make sure assessed sites do not just sit empty. They provided additional response following the Gold King by forming a group composed of tourism and economic stakeholders from the affected communities (Economic-Business Impact Group or E-BIG). The group was able to assist in establishing better communication between EPA and Silverton as well as across state lines and put out common information for completion and submittal of the SF 95 claims form. The importance of being able to work across state lines even when a federal disaster is not declared cannot be understated.

### **3) Community Engagement & Partnerships**

#### **a) Engaging the Community**

##### **i) Community Involvement Plan & ii) Communicating Progress**

In addition to two community meetings held in Durango and Pagosa Springs this summer to assess interest (see Site Inventory or Identification Process section), Region 9 will provide monthly updates to our regional board of directors and prepare and distribute notes of Coalition meetings to Coalition members and any interested parties, including EPA. Region 9 will manage the public Coalition meetings and communicate the progress of the Brownfield assessment program to citizens through status updates via press releases to regional media, Region 9 website, and social media outlets to promote public awareness. We will highlight the completed projects in articles in the Region 9 newsletter(s) and offer to make presentations to our community partners (see items b and c below). This region is a diverse mix of smaller and larger towns and rural areas, and each entity has its own established methods for



communicating with citizens. Each of the involved local governments will address their own constituents on any clean up or reuse plans. Region 9 will work with each entity, as listed in C)ii) below to identify any additional specific information, or type of information, that could be provided that would facilitate their communication to constituents about the project.

**b) Partnerships with Government Agencies**

Region 9 distributes a monthly report of activities to our current funding partners. EPA will be added to this list to keep updated on activities as will the other government agencies in which we work (EDA, USDA, and Colorado Office of Economic Development & International Trade). Any cleanup plans will be submitted to the Voluntary Cleanup Program at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. A letter from the State of Colorado Department of Health and the Environment is attached acknowledging this project.

**c) Partnership with Community Organizations**

**i) Community Organization and role**

The SW Colorado Council of Governments, Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB), Animas River Forum (30 organizations concerned with water quality along Animas River, started after Gold King Mine Spill), various Chambers of Commerce, as well as the five county economic development groups, will be on the notification list of all Coalition meetings and project updates. Our sparse population spread over a wide area makes does not lend itself to a significant number community organizations. Region 9 will make every effort to involve additional groups and the key stakeholders in each community (as identified in the CEDS). Anyone is welcome to be on this list. Letters of support have been provided from:

- Southwest Colorado Council of Governments
- Southwest Workforce Center
- La Plata Economic Development Alliance
- Montezuma Community Economic Development Association
- Animas River Forum
- Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation

**ii) Letters of Commitment**

Letters of Commitment have been provided by each member of the Coalition. In addition to the communities participating in the Coalition, the KSU TAB program and the Colorado Department of Health have expressed support and offered some assistance in the process. See attached letters of commitment from:

- Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB)
- Ignacio School District
- Town of Ignacio
- Town of Bayfield
- Town of Rico
- Town of Mancos
- Town of Pagosa Springs
- City of Durango
- Durango/Plata County Regional Airport
- City of Cortez

- Montezuma County

**d) Partnerships with Workforce Development Programs**

Region 9 serves on the Southwest Workforce Advisory Board which covers the same five county region as our service area. The Workforce Board includes public and private sector members who will be on the notification list of all Coalition meetings, outreach and project updates. Their letter of support is attached.

**4) Project Benefits**

**a) Welfare, Environmental and Public Health Benefits**

We will use the assessment results to evaluate potential risks from known contamination and recommend strategies to protect sensitive communities. The contamination present at these sites will be compared to established state and federal risk-based standards. Working with the Coalition member(s), including TAB, EPA and CDHE, remediation plans will be proposed to directly reduce threats to human health and the environment, and communicate applicable federal and/or state programs requirements directly to the site owners. Through the inventory process, Coalition communities will get a better idea of properties they need to focus attention and resources on in the future.

**b) Economic and Community Benefits**

Assessing and removing asbestos from historic buildings will address negative perceptions and remove a major obstacle to adaptive reuse of existing and historic structures, thereby rejuvenating stressed downtowns. Past experience by participating communities using Brownfields tools has created a destination science and energy museum, affordable workforce housing, a downtown theater and other community amenities as well as numerous business-ready sites. We look to build on these initial successes. By freeing up downtown structures for adaptive reuse, we will address this community need to house businesses, infuse the local tax base and provide job opportunities in the commercial areas along with improving the basic neighborhood setting for mixed residential/commercial uses.

Returning these properties to productive use will improve livability of the surrounding area, by restoring what are mostly abandoned, underutilized or vacant properties to an active role within their respective neighborhoods. All of the properties have been targeted for improvement by local governments through their various planning processes. New uses on these properties will be able to use existing utility and road infrastructure, and their redevelopment will contribute to the walkability of the communities where they are located. Occupied and productive sites reduce blight and crime, provide the potential for better housing options, and can create open space, reinforcing local community pride, resulting in a better quality of life for our citizens.

**5) Programmatic Capacity/Past Performance:**

**Audit findings**

Region 9 is audited annually and has had no negative findings since 2010. Those findings included: timely asset evaluation, and understanding new program requirements. Those

findings were successfully resolved by the next audit. Region 9 receives clean Single Audits. Copies are available if needed.

**a) Programmatic capability**

Region 9's mission is to be a regional leader, working cooperatively with the private and public sectors to enhance the economic conditions in the area, and improve the region's economic prosperity. Region 9 covers five counties, ten municipalities and the only two Native American Tribes in Colorado (Ute Mountain Ute and Southern Ute). Incorporated in 1989, Region 9 is led by a 26-member board of directors (17 from local governmental jurisdictions and 9 from the private sector) supported by a staff of nine. In the Attachments is a Resolution from Region 9's Board of Directors expressing support for this application.

Region 9 has significant experience with administering multi-year State and Federal grants from a variety of sources. For example, Region 9 successfully oversaw a regional \$3 million, three year, grant from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) for a regional telecommunications project initially involving 17 government jurisdictions. More projects are listed below under accomplishments.

**b) Measuring Environmental Results Anticipated Outputs/Outcomes**

Region 9 is a Colorado Data Center Affiliate and can receive a deeper level of data than the general public. The impacts of this project will be measured in terms of job creation, tax revenue and other economic indicators.

**c) Past Performance and Accomplishments**

*iii) Have Not received and EPA Brownfields Grant but has received other federal and nonfederal assistance agreements. (describe up to 5)*

1. Purpose/accomplishments & 2. compliance with grant requirements

Region 9 has not received EPA funds in the past, however, in 2016 received funds **(1)** of \$57K for a Recovery Coordinator in San Juan County to work with the business community and assist them through changes resulting from the Gold King spill and resulting Bonita Peak Superfund designation and work. This Coordinator, funded by the Economic Development Administration through the Dept. of Commerce, will be working closely with the Town, County and businesses with EPA over the next 18 months. It is the Coordinator's main mission to deal with the impacts and recovery of the local economy. Region 9 has received 7 contract renewals for Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) **(2)** contracted through La Plata County (and the five county region through an inter-governmental agreement) from the Colorado Office of Economic Development for loan funds, which since the early 1990s have totaled about \$18 million dispersed to small, primarily start-up businesses in the region. Our contact is Bob Todd at Robert.Todd@state.co.us. Region 9 received **(3)** Economic Development Administration (EDA)-Revolving Loan funds also in the early 1990s of \$300K and remains in compliance as the money is still tracked and reported on. **(4)** EDA also provides at least \$66K annually to Region 9 for Community Planning and Technical Assistance. Finally, the USDA **(5)** has provided significant funding totaling over \$1,250,000 to-date including Rural Micro Entrepreneur Assistance Program (RMAP) money for small businesses. Our contact is P.J. Howe at p.j.howe@co.usda.gov. All grant funds require some leveraged dollars and provide the

opportunities to support small businesses the will locate in the existing structures this funding creates.

**Attachments**

- 1) Cover Letter –Threshold Eligibility
- 2) Appendix 3
- 3) Letter from State Environmental Authority – Colorado Department of Health & Environment
- 4) Documentation of applicant eligibility
- 5) Letters of commitment from community organizations
- 6) Letters of Commitment from Assessment Coalition members
- 7) Resolution from Region 9 Board of Directors

	Task 1 -- Coop. Agreement & Grant Reporting			Task 2 --Secure Consultant & Work Plan			Task 3 -- Conduct Assessmen	Task 4 -- Public Input and Outreach			Task 5 - Comm. Inventories		Totals
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 2	Year 3	
Personnel	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$4,000	\$0	\$0	\$0							\$11,000
Fringe													
Benefits	\$700	\$700	\$800	\$0	\$0	\$0							\$2,200
Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$400	\$400	\$400		\$300	\$300	\$300			\$2,100
Equipment													\$0
Supplies	\$250	\$250	\$200	\$200	\$400	\$400		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000			\$4,700
Contractual	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$300,000	\$50,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$20,000	\$580,000
Other													\$0
Indirect													
Charges													\$0
<b>Total</b>	\$4,450	\$4,450	\$5,000	\$30,600	\$30,800	\$30,800	\$300,000	\$51,300	\$41,300	\$41,300	\$40,000	\$20,000	\$600,000

### Appendix 3 - Regional Priorities Form/Other Factors Checklist

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Regional Priorities Other Factor

If your proposed Brownfields Assessment project will advance the regional priority(ies) identified in Section I.F., please indicate the regional priority(ies) and the page number(s) for where the information can be found within your 15-page narrative. Only address the priority(ies) for the region in which your project is located. EPA will verify these disclosures prior to selection and may consider this information during the selection process. If this information is not clearly discussed in your narrative proposal, it will not be considered during the selection process.

Regional Priority Title(s):

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Page Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

#### Assessment Other Factors Checklist

Please identify (with an **X**) which, if any, of the below items apply to your community or your project as described in your proposal. To be considered for an Other Factor, you must include the page number where each applicable factor is discussed in your proposal. EPA will verify these disclosures prior to selection and may consider this information during the selection process. If this information is not clearly discussed in your narrative proposal or in any other attachments, it will not be considered during the selection process.

Other Factor	Page #
<i>None of the Other Factors are applicable.</i>	
Community population is 10,000 or less.	
Applicant is, or will assist, a federally recognized Indian tribe or United States territory.	
Target brownfield sites are impacted by mine-scarred land.	
Project is primarily focusing on Phase II assessments.	
Applicant demonstrates firm leveraging commitments for facilitating brownfield project completion by identifying amounts and contributors of funding in the proposal and have included documentation.	
Recent natural disaster(s) (2012 or later) occurred within community, causing significant community economic and environmental distress.	
Recent (2008 or later) significant economic disruption has occurred within community, resulting in a significant percentage loss of community jobs and tax base.	

Applicant is one of the 24 recipients, or a core partner/implementation strategy party, of a “manufacturing community” designation provided by the Economic Development Administration (EDA) under the Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership (IMCP). To be considered, <b>applicants must clearly demonstrate in the proposal the nexus between their IMCP designation and the Brownfield activities. Additionally, applicants must attach documentation</b> which demonstrate either designation as one of the 24 recipients, or relevant pages from a recipient’s IMCP proposal which lists/describes the core partners and implementation strategy parties.	
Applicant is a recipient or a core partner of HUD-DOT-EPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities (PSC) grant funding or technical assistance that is directly tied to the proposed Brownfields project, and can demonstrate that funding from a PSC grant/technical assistance has or will benefit the project area. Examples of PSC grant or technical assistance include a HUD Regional Planning or Challenge grant, DOT Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER), or EPA Smart Growth Implementation or Building Blocks Assistance, etc. To be considered, <b>applicant must attach documentation.</b>	
Applicant is a recipient of an EPA Brownfields Area-Wide Planning grant.	



Dedicated to protecting and improving the health and environment of the people of Colorado

December 19, 2016

Ms. Christina Wilson  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 8 Brownfield's Program  
1595 Wynkoop Street (EPR-B)  
Denver, Colorado 80202-1129

RE: Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado - Brownfields Assessment Proposal

Dear Ms. Wilson:

I am writing to express our strong support of the Brownfields Assessment Grant proposal for the Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado (Region 9).

Region 9 serves a mostly rural area of Colorado that is characterized by communities with small populations and limited revenues. For these communities, brownfields assistance in the form of assessments, technical assistance and cleanup funding can often be the critical factor that allows cleanup and redevelopment projects to move forward.

In recent years, CDPHE has actively partnered with many of the local governments that make up the Region 9 coalition. The collaborative efforts between CDPHE and local governments in Region 9 have resulted in several highly successful redevelopment projects. In Mancos, CDPHE performed a targeted brownfields assessment (TBA) that allowed a former power plant location to be used for the new town library. In Cortez, state cleanup grants were provided to convert a dilapidated building on the town's main street into a community theater. Silverton received a sub-grant from the Colorado Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund to clean-up a historic smelter site which is now being developed into affordable housing, and in Durango, a variety of brownfields tools were used to help convert an abandoned power plant into an award winning children's museum.

As a result of previous successes, CDPHE has remained actively engaged with these communities, and hopes to build upon the success of recent projects. During the summer and fall of 2016, CDPHE hosted brownfields workshops in both Pagosa Springs and Durango. CDPHE also met with Region 9 representatives to discuss how other incentives available through CDPHE could supplement assessment grant activities. Finally, with the recent listing of the Bonita Peak Mining District on the National Priorities Lists, CDPHE has been actively working with Silverton and San Juan County to identify how brownfields incentives and other tools might be used to affect local economic improvements. For these reasons, CDPHE considers this proposal a vital step to help continue successful brownfields redevelopment in the coalition communities.





If additional resources are necessary after completion of activities outlined in this application, CDPHE has the ability to provide funding for Brownfields cleanup through the Colorado Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund and the State of Colorado Brownfields (H.B. 1306) program. Furthermore, Colorado's Voluntary Cleanup Program provides a mechanism to remediate contaminated sites and provide State approval of the cleanup. Finally, Colorado's State Income Tax Credit for Remediation of Contaminated Land is a transferrable credit that can provide local governments with additional resources for cleanup activities. CDPHE has informed the coalition members of the availability of these resources and can assist with the application process and provide technical assistance as requested.

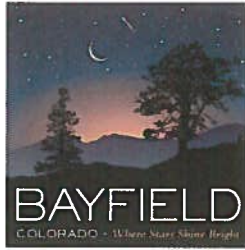
In summary, we feel the proposed project is a vital part Region 9's effort to identify and assess underused properties in their communities, and we look forward to a continued partnership with coalition members.

Sincerely,



Douglas C. Jamison  
Superfund and Brownfields Unit Leader  
Colorado Dept. of Public Health and Environment





1199 Bayfield Parkway • P.O. Box 80 • Bayfield, CO 81122 • (970) 884-9544

December 16, 2016

Laura Lewis Marchino  
Region 9 Economic Development District of SW Colorado  
295 A. Girard St.  
Durango, CO 81303

**Re: Brownfields Assessment Coalition Application**

Dear Mrs. Marchino:

The Town of Bayfield is interested in being a Coalition partner for the EDA Brownfields Assessment Grant to benefit Southwest Colorado Communities. We understand that this is a three year grant, and that we will need to participate in a Coalition.

The Town of Bayfield does not know at this time what properties in town meet the classification as Brownfield and as an initial step desires to have an inventory completed identifying potential brownfield sites that might warrant Phase I and Phase II assessments under this application.

As a small rural community, with a population of 2,500, the Town lacks the staff resources and funding for an initial inventory, but we suspect based on local legend that a number of sites may have brownfield characteristics. The Town desires to begin with a professionally performed inventory of the Town in hopes of better understanding what sites host Brownfield characteristics. Upon completion, the Town will work with property owners to address impediments to redevelopment. The Town is excited about this opportunity and the aid in redevelopment and revitalization of existing sites in effort to improve the economic condition in Bayfield.

Please consider this letter our commitment to this application and intent to sign the Memorandum of Agreement as a Coalition member in order to participate. If you need any additional information, feel free to contact me at (970) 884-9544 or [clamay@bayfieldgov.org](mailto:clamay@bayfieldgov.org).

Sincerely,

Chris S. La May  
Town Manager



CITY OF CORTEZ  
210 EAST MAIN STREET  
CORTEZ, CO 81321

December 14, 2016

Laura Lewis Marchino  
Region 9 Economic Development District of SW Colorado  
295 A. Girard St.  
Durango, CO 81303

Re: Brownfields Assessment Coalition Application

Dear Mrs. Marchino,

The City of Cortez is interested in being a Coalition partner for the EDA Brownfields Assessment Grant to benefit Southwest Colorado Communities. We understand that this is a 3 year grant, and that we will need to participate in a Coalition.

The City doesn't plan to submit any properties for an environmental assessment initially. However, we intend to work to identify eligible properties and encourage them to take advantage of this great program over the next three years.

The City recognizes the value of the brownfields assessment program, as we lack the Staff and resources to effectively address this issue on our own.

Please consider this letter our commitment to this application and intent to sign the Memorandum of Agreement as a Coalition member in order to participate. If you need any additional information, feel free to contact me at 970.564.4005.

Sincerely,

Shane Hale, ICMA-CM  
City Manager



Community Development Department

December 19, 2016

Laura Lewis Marchino  
Region 9 Economic Development District of SW Colorado  
295 A. Girard St.  
Durango, CO 81303

Re: Brownfields Assessment Coalition Application

Dear Mrs. Marchino:

The City of Durango is interested in becoming a Coalition partner for the EDA Brownfields Assessment Grant to benefit Southwest Colorado Communities. We understand that this is a 3 year grant, and that we will need to participate in the Coalition during this period.

The City has 3 projects for consideration in your application including a site inventory at the Durango-La Plata County Airport, as well as site assessments at the Mason Center and Holly Park sites. Information from the Airport is included under separate cover.

The identified properties are priorities for the community. The airport is a critical regional facility serving the Four Corners Region. The Mason Center and Holly Park sites are both identified in the City's Parks, Open Space, Trails, and Recreation Master Plan as important future parks. It is our hope that participation in the Coalition will allow us to move forward on the site specific planning necessary to realize full utilization of these properties in the near future.

Please consider this letter our commitment to this application and intent to sign the Memorandum of Agreement as a Coalition member in order to participate. If you need any additional information, feel free to contact me at the contact information below.

Sincerely,

*Kevin Hall, AICP  
Community Development Director  
City of Durango  
949 E. 2nd Avenue  
Durango, Colorado 81301  
(970) 375-7315*

**Community Development Department, Kevin Hall, Director  
1235 Camino Del Rio  
Mailing: 949 E. Second Avenue, Durango, CO 81301-5109  
Phone: 970-375-4850**



**1000 Airport Road, Box 15  
Durango, CO 81303  
Phone: 970-382-6051  
Fax: 970-247-8145  
Visit: [www.flydurango.com](http://www.flydurango.com)**

December 19, 2016

Laura Lewis Marchino  
Region 9 Economic Development District of SW Colorado  
295 A. Girard St.  
Durango, CO 81303

Re: Brownfields Assessment Coalition Application

Dear Ms. Marchino,

The Durango-La Plata County Airport is interested in being a Coalition partner for the EDA Brownfields Assessment Grant to benefit Southwest Colorado Communities. We understand that this is a 3 year grant, and that we will need to participate in a Coalition.

The Airport is seeking an inventory of its property and structures to assess the viability of proposed redevelopment efforts that are ongoing. The Airport property consists of approximately 1,382 acres on which numerous structures exist. Of particular interest are the existing 37,500 square foot terminal building, an abandoned barn, a small abandoned building, and numerous stockpiles of construction materials.

The Airport recognizes the value of the Brownfields assessment program, as we lack the staff and resources to effectively address these potential environmental issues on our own. The Airport is a department of the City of Durango, which will also be an active participant in this grant application.

Please consider this letter our commitment to this application and intent to sign the Memorandum of Agreement as a Coalition member in order to participate. If you need any additional information, feel free to contact me at (970) 382-6052.

Sincerely,

Tony Vicari  
Interim Director of Aviation  
Durango-La Plata County Airport



# TOWN OF IGNACIO

P. O. Box 459 • IGNACIO, COLORADO 81137  
Phone: 970-563-9494 • Fax: 970-563-9498



12/16/16

Laura Lewis Marchino  
Region 9 Economic Development District of SW Colorado  
295 A. Girard St.  
Durango, CO 81303

Re: Brownfields Assessment Coalition Application

Dear Mrs. Marchino:

The Town of Ignacio is interested in being a Coalition partner for the EDA Brownfields Assessment Grant to benefit Southwest Colorado Communities. We understand that this is a 3 year grant, and that we will need to participate in a Coalition.

The Town of Ignacio Community Development Administrator plans to submit at least four sites for Phase I and Phase II assessment under this application as they are, the current Ignacio Town Hall and Community Room which is addressed 540 and 570 Goddard Avenue, the Town's Public Works shop and yard which is addressed 175 Becker, and a twenty acre parcel located just outside the Town limits addressed as 254 County Road 320B.

As a rural community, we lack the staff resources and funding for the initial assessments but the submitted properties are priorities for (redevelop, reuse, , and increase our tax base, address environmental impacts, etc. through our participation.

Please consider this letter our commitment to this application and intent to sign the Memorandum of Agreement as a Coalition member in order to participate. If you need any additional information, feel free to contact me at (970) 563-9494.

Sincerely,

Dan Naiman  
Town of Ignacio  
Community Development Administrator  
(970) 563-9494  
dnaiman@townofignacio.com



HOME OF THE BOBCATS

## IGNACIO SCHOOL DISTRICT 11 JT

---

P. O. Box 460 Ignacio, Colorado 81137  
970-563-0500 Fax 970-563-4524  
[www.ignacioschools.org](http://www.ignacioschools.org)

December 15, 2016

Laura Lewis Marchino  
Region 9 Economic Development District of SW Colorado  
295 A. Girard St.  
Durango, CO 81303

Re: Brownfields Assessment Coalition Application

Dear Mrs. Marchino:

The Ignacio School District 11JT is interested in being a Coalition partner for the EDA Brownfields Assessment Grant to benefit Southwest Colorado Communities. We understand that this is a 3 year grant, and that we will need to participate in a Coalition.

The Ignacio School District 11JT plans to submit one ELHI site for Phase I and Phase II assessment under this application as this property is own by the district.

As a rural community, we lack the staff resources and funding for the initial assessments but the submitted properties are priorities for (redevelop, reuse, proximately located properties, and increase our tax base, address environmental impacts etc) through our participation.

Please consider this letter our commitment to this application and intent to sign the Memorandum of Agreement as a Coalition member in order to participate. If you need any additional information, feel free to contact me at 970-563-0501.

Sincerely,

*Rocco Fuschetto Ed.D.*  
SUPERINTENDENT

**SOUTHWEST COLORADO BROWNFIELDS ASSESSMENT COALITION  
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN THE FOLLOWING PARTIES:**

**Region 9 Economic Development District of SW Colorado, Inc, and the Ignacio School  
District 11JT**

This Memorandum of Agreement documents the roles and responsibilities of the various parties involved in the Assessment Coalition with regard to EPA Cooperative Agreement No:

1. On \_\_\_\_\_ EPA awarded the Cooperative Agreement to the Lead Coalition Member Region 9 Economic Development District of SW Colorado (Region 9 EDD). The grant period is \_\_\_\_\_. Region 9 EDD is responsible to EPA for management of the cooperative agreement and compliance with the statutes, regulations, and terms and conditions of the award, and ensuring that all members of the coalition are in compliance with the terms and conditions.

2. It is the responsibility of Region 9 EDD to provide timely information to the other Coalition Partners regarding the management of the cooperative agreement and any changes that may be made to the cooperative agreement over the period of performance.

3. The Coalition Partner is the Ignacio School District 11JT . The contact information is as follows:

Ignacio School District, Ignacio, Colorado

Project Manager: Rocco Fuschetto, Ed. D.

Address: P. O Box 460 Ignacio, CO 81137

Phone Number: 970-563-0501

Email Address; [rfuschetto@ignacioschools.org](mailto:rfuschetto@ignacioschools.org)

4. Activities funded through the cooperative agreement will include inventory preparation, site selection criteria development, Phase I and Phase II assessments, and planning (including cleanup planning) relating to brownfield sites, and other eligible activities. Region 9 EDD will retain consultant(s) and contractors under 40 CFR 30.36 to undertake various activities funded through the cooperative agreement and may award subgrants to other coalition members under 40 CFR 31.37 for assessment projects in their geographic areas. Subgrantees are accountable to Region 9 EDD for proper expenditure of funds.

5. Region 9 EDD will procure the consultant(s) in compliance with 40 CFR 31.36 requirements, will issue the Request for Proposals or Request for Qualifications and will be the entity responsible for receipt of the submitted proposals and selection and award of contracts. Region 9



EDD will consult with other coalition members in making selections of consultants and contractors and negotiating the terms of agreements.

6. Region 9 EDD, in consultation with the Coalition Partners, will work to develop a site selection process based on agreed upon factors and will ensure that a minimum of five sites are assessed over the life of the cooperative agreement. Selected sites will be submitted to EPA for prior approval to ensure eligibility.

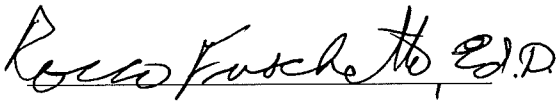
7. Upon designation of the specific sites, it will be the responsibility of Region 9 EDD to work with the coalition member in whose geographic area the site is located to finalize the scope of work for the consultant or contractor. It will be the responsibility of this member to obtain all required permits, easements, and/or access agreements as may be necessary to undertake assessments at the selected site.

8. Region 9 EDD is responsible for ensuring that other activities as negotiated in the workplan, are implemented in accordance with application and Coalition agreement.

9. Coalition Partners will prioritize sites prior to EPA funding. If additional funding is available, additional sites will be considered by the Coalition.

10. Coalition Partners understand that they will need to provide information to Region 9 EDD for EDA grant reporting as requested and meet as a Coalition at least twice a year.

Agreed:

 \_\_\_\_\_

Rocco Fuschetto, Ed. D.  
Superintendent

The Ignacio School District 11JT \_\_\_\_\_

December 15, 2016



December 15, 2016

Laura Lewis Marchino  
Region 9 Economic Development District of SW Colorado  
295 A. Girard St.  
Durango, CO 81303

Re: Brownfields Assessment Coalition Application

Dear Mrs. Marchino:

The Town of Mancos is interested in being a Coalition partner for the EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant to benefit Southwest Colorado Communities. We understand that this is a three- year grant, and that we will need to participate in a Coalition.

The Town of Mancos is reviewing potential sites for Phase I and Phase II assessment under this application. As a rural community, we lack the staff resources and funding for the initial assessments, but the properties are priorities for redevelopment.

Please consider this letter our commitment to this application and intent to sign the Memorandum of Agreement as a Coalition member in order to participate. If you need any additional information, feel free to contact me at (970) 533-7725.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andrea Phillips". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Andrea" and last name "Phillips" clearly visible.

Andrea Phillips  
Town Administrator

12/14/2016

Laura Lewis Marchino  
Region 9 Economic Development District of SW Colorado  
295 A. Girard St.  
Durango, CO 81303

Re: Brownfields Assessment Coalition Application

Dear Mrs. Marchino:

Montezuma County is interested in being a Coalition partner for the EDA Brownfields Assessment Grant to benefit Southwest Colorado Communities. We understand that this is a 3 year grant, and that we will need to participate in a Coalition.

Please consider this letter our commitment to this application and intent to sign the Memorandum of Agreement as a Coalition member in order to participate. If you need any additional information, feel free to contact me a 970-565-7402

Sincerely,

James Dietrich





**Town of Pagosa Springs**  
**551 Hot Springs Boulevard**  
**Post Office Box 1859**  
**Pagosa Springs, CO 81147**  
**Phone: 970.264.4151**  
**Fax: 970.264.4634**

December 13, 2016

Gregory J. Schulte  
Town Manager  
551 Hot Springs Blvd.  
PO Box 1859  
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

Re: Brownfields Assessment Coalition Application

Dear Mrs. Marchino,

The Town of Pagosa Springs is interested in being a Coalition partner for the EDA Brownfields Assessment Grant to benefit Southwest Colorado Communities. We understand that this is a 3-year grant, and that we will need to participate in a Coalition.

The Town of Pagosa Springs plans to submit one (1) site for Phase I and Phase II assessment under this application as this site is potentially contaminated with oil and gas from years of vehicle and machine maintenance at this location.

The Town's submitted property is a priority for significant redevelopment and potential reuse through our participation. The property is currently utilized as the Town's Public Shop for vehicle and equipment storage and maintenance. On December 6, 2016, the Town Council approved the concept of the "Foothills Project." This project includes the Town Shop site as an identified, potential location for deed restricted, affordable housing units to be constructed. The Town does have \$20,000 set aside in the 2017 budget to conduct a needs and site assessment, which could potentially be in conjunction with this Coalition's efforts.

Please consider this letter as acknowledgment of our commitment to this application and intent to sign the Memorandum of Agreement as a Coalition member in order to participate. If you need any additional information, feel free to contact me by phone (970) 264-4151 x 236 or by email at [gschulte@pagosasprings.co.gov](mailto:gschulte@pagosasprings.co.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gregory J. Schulte".

Gregory J. Schulte  
Town Manager  
Town of Pagosa Springs

**TOWN OF RICO COLORADO**  
**POB 9**  
**RICO, COLORADO 81332**

December 15, 2016  
Laura Lewis Marchino  
Region 9 Economic Development District of SW Colorado  
295 A. Girard St.  
Durango, CO 81303

Re: Brownfields Assessment Coalition Application

Dear Mrs. Marchino:

The Town of Rico is interested in being a Coalition partner for the EDA Brownfields Assessment Grant to benefit Southwest Colorado Communities. We understand that this is a 3 year grant, and that we will need to participate in a Coalition.

Rico plans to submit two sites for Phase I and Phase II assessment under this application: Town Hall and the Streets and Roads Maintenance Barn, (County Shop area.)

As a small rural community, we lack the staff resources and funding for the initial assessments but the submitted properties are priorities for renovation and reuse. Assessments need to be done so we can find funding to address significant environmental issues. Our participation in the coalition's EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant is critical to addressing asbestos issues and significant leaks damaging our Town Hall, a building that is listed on the National Register of Historic Buildings. The County Maintenance building is situated on a part of town that has mine waste embedded in the surrounding area and anchors a proposed River Trail Recreation area. It needs to be either cleaned up or moved to beautify the area. We believe the River Trail could provide us with increased economic development from tourism: bikers, hikers and fishermen as well as providing a recreation area for the town's citizens. It might even offer a site for a small lodge. Town Hall, as well as being on the National Register houses the Rico Public Library. Town Hall also serves as a meeting place for women's club and for periodic paying classes. Its basement houses the old jail which could become a paying tourist site.

Please consider this letter our commitment to this application and intent to sign the Memorandum of Agreement as a Coalition member in order to participate. If you need any additional information, feel free to call me at 970-708-0743.

Sincerely,



Barbara Betts  
Mayor Pro Tem



12/16/2016

Laura Lewis Marchino, CEcD  
Executive Director, Region 9 EDD  
295 A Girard St.  
Durango, CO 81303

Subject: Support for Brownfield Application

Dear Ms. Lewis,

The La Plata Economic Development Alliance is a nonprofit economic development organization dedicated to fostering the economic wellbeing of La Plata County, Colorado. As the Executive Director, I am writing this letter to express the La Plata Economic Development Alliance's support for Region 9's application for a regional brownfields assessment grant.

Brownfields are some of the most challenging sites for re-use in any community. They are especially problematic in rural areas like ours as we have limited resources to identify risks at sites and appropriately price and plan remediation. The uncertainty around brownfield sites often causes development to go around and out beyond existing brownfields, resulting in increased sprawl and underutilized sites within our existing communities. Both of these outcomes are detrimental to our quality of life and community values.

The brownfield assessment grant will help communities throughout Southwest Colorado—including Ignacio and Durango in La Plata County. Through this assessment, we will be able to get several properties assessed for contamination and priced, reducing uncertainty and thereby increasing the likelihood that these sites will be remediated and redeveloped for better use.

A brownfield assessment would be extremely helpful in helping our rural communities remediate environmentally harmed sites, facilitate redevelopment, and improve the quality of the communities we live in which is why the Alliance supports this application. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Thank you, and have a good day.

Sincerely,

Roger Zalneraitis  
Executive Director  
La Plata Economic Development Alliance  
970-259-1700  
roger@yeslpc.com



December 19, 2016

Laura Lewis Marchino  
Region 9 Economic Development District  
295 A Girard Street  
Durango, CO 81301

Dear Ms. Lewis-Marchino

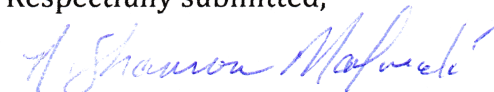
The ARCF is pleased to provide this letter in support of the regional Brownfields Assessment Grant that Region 9 Economic Development District is submitting. Promoting healthy and resilient communities is at the core of the Animas River Community Forum (ARCF) efforts, and as such we appreciate that Region 9 is pursuing the Brownfields Assessment Grant to remediate environmental hazardous on properties across southwest Colorado.

The ARCF formed in the aftermath of the Gold King Mine spill to support a coordinated community response to the incident. Furthermore, the incident prompted dialogue for finding solutions to address the hundreds of mines draining pollutants into the Animas—a major source of pollution affecting public health and environment in southwest Colorado. With representatives from local, state, federal and tribal governments, as well as elected officials, business and education sectors, and conservation organizations, the Forum Partners included the necessary diverse stakeholders perspectives to have that conversation. Working together locally and with support from the Governor, 48 sites have now been designated the Bonita Peak Mining District (BPMD) Superfund site.

While the Forum formed out of a crisis, the Partners have come to value the exchange of information at the bi-monthly meetings and have committed to continue coordinating efforts aimed at promoting watershed health and resiliency and overall community health. Thank you for making the ARCF aware of the economic challenges that prevent small rural communities in SW Colorado from effectively addressing toxic pollutants in buildings, homes and properties across the Region.

Similar to the acid mine drainage issues in the San Juan Mountains, the effort to clean up hazardous properties will require a collaborative effort, leadership, and long-term commitment. As such, we fully support and applaud Region 9 taking a leadership role in addressing this public health and environment issue.

Respectfully submitted,



Shannon Manfredi, Coordinator  
Animas River Community Forum

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*Animas River Community Forum*

December 14, 2016

Laura Lewis Marchino  
Executive Director, Region 9 EDD  
295 A Girard St.  
Durango, CO 81303

Subject: Letter of Commitment - Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB) Program  
For the Coalition Assessment Grant Application

Dear Ms. Marchino,

The TAB program is pleased to provide this letter documenting our partnership and support, of the coalition assessment grant headed up by the Region 9 Economic Development District. For the past year TAB has worked with the District and their membership regarding the pending application by educating them on the benefits of brownfields funding, specific ways funding can be utilized and addressing coalition member's questions. This letter outlines the follow-on activities that TAB plans to assist with.

TAB will assist with review of the assessment grant and, if awarded, to provide technical support to the coalition to develop and review of an RFP for an environmental contractor, review reports and assist with community outreach. The fact that grant activities will occur in a rural area, there is usually land to build on but little incentive to reuse current buildings, especially if there is perceived contamination. Successful implementation of this grant will preserve open space, encourage infill development and bring needed resources to an underserved area of the state.

Based on our years of partnering with other entities, we anticipate that the technical support will constitute approximately \$5,000 of leveraged effort and that TAB will expend up to approximately \$10,000 per year on technical document reviews, community outreach, and other assistance necessary for the regional effort.

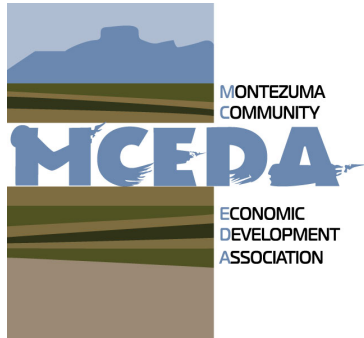
We strongly support and wish you luck on your proposal, and with your brownfields redevelopment efforts in general.

Sincerely,



Blase A. Leven  
TAB Program Coordinator





12/16/2016

Laura Lewis Marchino, CEcD  
Executive Director, Region 9 EDD  
295 A Girard St.  
Durango, CO 81303

Subject: Support for Brownfield Application

Dear Ms. Lewis,

The Montezuma Community Economic Development Association (MCEDA) is an economic development organization dedicated to fostering the economic wellbeing of Montezuma County, Colorado. As the Economic Development Specialist, I am writing this letter to express the Montezuma Community Economic Development Association's support for Region 9's application for a regional brownfields assessment grant.

Brownfields are some of the most challenging sites for re-use in any community. They are especially problematic in rural areas like ours as we have limited resources to identify risks at sites and appropriately price and plan remediation. The uncertainty around brownfield sites often causes development to go around and out beyond existing brownfields, resulting in increased sprawl and underutilized sites within our existing communities. The effects can be seen in Montezuma County.

The brownfield assessment grant will help communities throughout Southwest Colorado—including Towaoc, Mancos, Dolores and Cortez in Montezuma County. Through this assessment, we will be able to get several properties assessed for contamination and priced, reducing uncertainty and thereby increasing the likelihood that these sites will be remediated and redeveloped for better use.

A brownfield assessment would be extremely helpful in helping our rural communities remediate environmentally harmed toxic sites, facilitate redevelopment, and improve the quality of the communities we live in which is why MCEDA supports this application.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Thank you, and have a good day.

Sincerely,

Chelsea Jones  
Economic Development Specialist  
Montezuma Community Economic Development Association  
970-560-5581  
[cjones@montezumaceda.org](mailto:cjones@montezumaceda.org)



Laura Lewis-Marchino  
**Region 9 Economic Development District**  
295 A Girard St.  
Durango, CO 81303

Dear Ms. Lewis-Marchino ,

On behalf of the Chamber of Commerce and the Pagosa Springs Community Development Corporation I would like to voice our support of the regional Brownfields Assessment Grant that Region 9 is submitting.

Each of our communities have a site or two that needs a Phase I or II assessment. Putting this regional project together is extremely beneficial to all of us collectively instead of trying to tackle sites individually. As for Pagosa Springs, at least getting the facility or site assessed will help to move the sale of a property so as not to have a location that is a blight on the community. From there we can generate interest in a site for economic development and redevelopment.

Pagosa Springs has had a few buildings that have needed assessments. The cost and procedures involved have made it an economic detriment to reclaim and renovate these sites. With the Town of Pagosa Springs revising its "Comprehensive Plan", it is a perfect opportunity for us to revisit abandoned buildings and create some business attraction and activity. I am sure we are no exception to this opportunity to reclaim sites and that is the beauty of the grant application as a region.

I am sure that there are many applications for this grant opportunity; however, it is refreshing to see our communities - up to eight governments - partnering to achieve economic development success as a region. Under the direction of Region 9, we are confident that the program will be well managed, collaborative and successful for ALL our communities.

Respectfully,

Mary Jo Coulehan  
Executive Director



## SOUTHWEST COLORADO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

20 December 2016

Laura Lewis Marchino, CEcD  
Executive Director, Region 9 EDD  
295 A Girard St.  
Durango, CO 81303

Dear Ms. Lewis,

The Southwest Colorado Council of Governments (SWCCOG) is located in the southwest corner of the state of Colorado. The mission of the SWCCOG is to provide regional leadership on behalf of governments throughout Southwest Colorado by defining regional issues, advocating for mutual goals, and collaboration and coordination across the region. The region of the SWCCOG and Region 9 are the same; which includes the counties of Archuleta, Dolores La Plata, Montezuma, and San Juan, the municipalities of the Cities of Cortez and Durango, and the Towns of Bayfield, Dolores, Dove Creek, Ignacio, Mancos, Pagosa Springs, Rico, and Silverton, as well as the two Native American Tribes of the Southern Ute and the Ute Mountain Ute. We are in support of Region 9's application for a regional brownfields assessment grant.

Brownfields have been some of the most challenging sites for re-use in any community. They are especially problematic in rural areas, such as Region 9 and the SWCCOG's, as we have limited resources to identify risks at sites and appropriately price and plan remediation. The uncertainty around brownfield sites often causes development to go around and out beyond existing brownfields, resulting in increased sprawl and underutilized sites within our existing communities. Both of these outcomes are detrimental to quality of life and community values in the region.

The brownfield assessment grant will help many of the region's communities and counties throughout Southwest Colorado. Through this assessment, many properties will be assessed for contamination and priced, reducing uncertainty and thereby increasing the likelihood that these sites will be remediated and redeveloped for better use.

A brownfield assessment would be extremely helpful in helping our rural communities remediate environmentally harmed sites, facilitate redevelopment, and improve the quality of life in the SWCCOG's communities and counties. The SWCCOG Alliance supports Region 9's application for brownfields assessment.

Sincerely,

Miriam C. Gillow-Wiles  
Executive Director  
Southwest Colorado Council of Governments  
[www.swccog.org](http://www.swccog.org)



December 16, 2016

Laura Lewis Marchino, CEcD  
Executive Director, Region 9 EDD  
295 A Girard St.  
Durango, CO 81303

Dear Ms. Lewis Marchino,

It is my pleasure to write this letter of commitment/support for a Regional Brownfields Assessment grant which looks to involve up to 8 local governments to include Bayfield, Cortez, Durango, Ignacio, Montezuma County, Pagosa Springs, and possibly Rico, Colorado.

The Southwest Colorado Workforce Centers work directly with many local employers. When starting or expanding a business, there is a need for prominently located infrastructure. In the rural area, there is usually land to build on, but little incentive to reuse current buildings, especially if there is perceived contamination. This project would have positive impacts on the economy in this region as it would provide an avenue to formally assess commercial and/or government owned properties and deliver opportunity for redevelopment and reuse of the properties.

As the administer of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, the Southwest Colorado Workforce Centers are able to sponsor short term training for eligible job seekers. Sponsorship of environmental job training may be an option for some job seekers.

Our mission is "to deliver a workforce system that enhances employer growth and customer success by providing employment and training opportunities that achieve and sustain economic prosperity". Working closely with our community partners allows for a stronger community with more opportunities. Supporting this grant is one of those opportunities.

Sincerely

*Chloe I. Wiebe*

Chloe I. Wiebe  
SW Colorado WFC Regional Supervisor



**REGION 9  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
OF SOUTHWEST COLORADO, INC.**

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
OF SOUTHWEST COLORADO**

**RESOLUTION #16-13**

**Resolution to authorize the submission of an EPA Brownfields Assessment  
Coalition Grant Application**

**WHEREAS**, the mission of the Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado, Inc. (District) is to be a regional leader, working cooperatively with the private and public sectors to enhance the economic conditions in the area, and improve the region's economic prosperity; and

**WHEREAS**, the District's strategic plan identified Brownfield inventory, assessment and clean-up as an important component in economic development; and

**WHEREAS**, the District was made aware of the Brownfields Assessment Coalition grant, through EPA, to assist rural communities which allows at least 3 jurisdictions with a minimum of 5 projects to apply as a Coalition, and

**WHEREAS**, The District would like to apply for, and if received, administer a Brownfields Assessment Coalition grant to include interested regional governments in the amount not to exceed \$600,000 and utilize offered and free Technical Assistance for Brownfields Program (TAB) through Kansas State University.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Directors of the District authorize the Chair or Executive Director to sign the application and the EPA grant contract when received.

Approved this 22nd day of September, 2016, by the Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado, Inc., Board of Directors.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Fernandez, Chairperson

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Todd Starr, Secretary

SERVING THE COUNTIES OF:

**ARCHULETA**

**DOLORES**

**LA PLATA**

**MONTEZUMA**

**SAN JUAN**

**SOUTHERN UTE  
INDIAN TRIBE**

**UTE MOUNTAIN UTE  
INDIAN TRIBE**

**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES:**

295A Girard St.  
Durango, CO 81303  
(970) 247-9621 PHONE  
(970) 247-9513 FAX  
e-mail: ed@scan.org  
www.scan.org

# MBSS

MAYNES, BRADFORD, SHIPPS & SHEFTEL LLP  
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JOHN BARLOW SPEAR  
STEVEN C. BOOS\*\*  
ADAM T. REEVES  
ELISABETH TAKEUCHI  
CHARLES C. SPENCE+  
SHAY L. DENNING++

\*Also Admitted in Arizona and Navajo Nation  
\*\*Also Admitted in Arizona, New Mexico, Utah and Navajo Nation  
+Also Admitted in New Mexico, Idaho, Utah and Wyoming  
++Also Admitted in New Mexico  
^^ Also Admitted in Arizona

SPECIAL COUNSEL:  
SHERRI D. WAY

ASSOCIATES:  
JEFFREY M. KANE  
ANDREW HANSEN  
JULIANNE BEGAY ^^

OF COUNSEL:  
PATRICIA A. HALL\*

JANICE C. SHEFTEL - RETIRED  
BYRON V. BRADFORD (1907-1985)  
FRANK E. (SAM) MAYNES (1933-2004)

sdenning@mbsslpl.com

December 21, 2016

Laura Lewis-Marchino  
Executive Director  
Region 9 Economic Development District of SW Colorado  
295 A Girard Street  
Durango, Colorado 81303

Re: EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant

Dear Laura:

It is our understanding that Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado, Inc. ("Region 9") is applying to the United States Environmental Protection Agency for a \$600,000 Coalition Grant through the EPA Brownfields Assessment fund. The purpose of this grant will be to assist in reuse and redevelopment efforts throughout rural Southwest Colorado. As part of this application process, Region 9 is required to meet certain conditions for an applicant to be eligible. Included in those conditions is information regarding the organization of Region 9.

Acting on behalf of Region 9, we have examined the Constitution and laws of the State of Colorado and the organizational documents and policy statements relating to Region 9. Based on the foregoing, we are of the opinion that:

1. Region 9 is a Colorado nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Colorado. The corporation is in good standing with the Colorado Secretary of State and has filed all required reports.
2. Region 9 is a regional planning commission, formed pursuant to the provisions of § 30-28-105, C.R.S. (1963).

December 21, 2016

Page 2

3. Region 9 has the legal authority to accept the proposed grant and utilize the grant money to perform the objectives and goals set forth in its application.

This opinion is rendered on the basis of federal law and the laws of the State of Colorado as enacted and construed on the date hereof. We express no opinion as to any matters not set forth in the numbered paragraphs herein. It is our understanding that you will be submitting this letter as part of your application. If the selection committee has questions or needs any additional documentation regarding the matters set forth above, please encourage them to contact our office.

Sincerely,

**MAYNES, BRADFORD, SHIPPS & SHEFTTEL, LLP**



Shay L. Denning

SLD:ar

## Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

\* 1. Type of Submission:

- ☐ Preapplication  
☒ Application  
☐ Changed/Corrected Application

\* 2. Type of Application:

- ☒ New  
☐ Continuation  
☐ Revision

\* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):

\* Other (Specify):

\* 3. Date Received:

12/21/2016

4. Applicant Identifier:

5a. Federal Entity Identifier:

5b. Federal Award Identifier:

### State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State:

7. State Application Identifier:

### 8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

\* a. Legal Name:

Region 9 Economic Development District of SW Colorado, Inc.

\* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):

84-1125631

\* c. Organizational DUNS:

9279219730000

### d. Address:

\* Street1:

295 A. Girard St.

Street2:

\* City:

Durango

County/Parish:

\* State:

CO: Colorado

Province:

\* Country:

USA: UNITED STATES

\* Zip / Postal Code:

81303-0000

### e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name:

Division Name:

### f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix:

\* First Name:

Laura

Middle Name:

C.

\* Last Name:

Lewis Marchino

Suffix:

Title:

Executive Director

Organizational Affiliation:

\* Telephone Number:

970-247-9621

Fax Number:

970-247-9513

\* Email:

laura@scan.org



## Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

### \* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:

E: Regional Organization

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

N: Nonprofit without 501C3 IRS Status (Other than Institution of Higher Education)

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

\* Other (specify):

### \* 10. Name of Federal Agency:

Environmental Protection Agency

### 11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

66.818

CFDA Title:

Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup Cooperative Agreements

### \* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:

EPA-OLEM-OBLR-16-08

\* Title:

FY17 Guidelines for Brownfields Assessment Grants

### 13. Competition Identification Number:

NONE

Title:

None

### 14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

### \* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:

Southwest Colorado Brownfields Assessment Coalition

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments

Delete Attachments

View Attachments

**Application for Federal Assistance SF-424****16. Congressional Districts Of:**\* a. Applicant \* b. Program/Project 

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

**17. Proposed Project:**\* a. Start Date: \* b. End Date: **18. Estimated Funding (\$):**

* a. Federal	<input type="text" value="600,000.00"/>
* b. Applicant	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* c. State	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* d. Local	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* e. Other	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* f. Program Income	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* g. TOTAL	<input type="text" value="600,000.00"/>

**\* 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**

- ☐ a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on .
- ☐ b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.
- ☒ c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.

**\* 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)**☐ Yes ☒ No

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

**21. \*By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications\*\* and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances\*\* and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001)**

☒ \*\* I AGREE

\*\* The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

**Authorized Representative:**

Prefix:  \* First Name:

Middle Name:

\* Last Name:

Suffix:

\* Title: \* Telephone Number:  Fax Number: \* Email: \* Signature of Authorized Representative:  \* Date Signed: